

FILED

2019 DEC 30 AM 11:14

CLERK US DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
BY *SHG* DEPUTY

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
AUSTIN DIVISION

EMILY GILBY, TEXAS DEMOCRATIC §
PARTY, DSCC, DCCC, §
PLAINTIFFS, §
§ CAUSE NO. 1:19-CV-1063-LY
V. §
§
RUTH HUGHES, IN HER OFFICIAL §
CAPACITY AS THE TEXAS §
SECRETARY OF STATE, §
DEFENDANT. §

TERRELL BLODGETT, TEXAS YOUNG §
DEMOCRATS, AND TEXAS COLLEGE §
DEMOCRATS, §
PLAINTIFFS, §
§ CAUSE NO. 1:19-CV-1154-LY
V. §
§
RUTH HUGHES, IN HER OFFICIAL §
CAPACITY AS THE TEXAS §
SECRETARY OF STATE, §
DEFENDANT. §

ORDER

Before the court Defendant the Texas Secretary of State's Unopposed Motion to Consolidate filed December 18, 2019 (Doc. #22). Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 42(a) permits a district court to consolidate "actions before the court involv[ing] a common question of law or fact." District courts have broad discretion in determining whether to consolidate cases. *See Mills v. Beech Aircraft Corp.*, 886 F.2d 758, 761-62 (5th Cir. 1989). Consolidation is proper when it will avoid unnecessary costs or delay without prejudicing the rights of the parties. *See id.* at 761-62 (5th Cir. 1989); *St. Bernard Gen. Hosp., Inc. v. Hospital Serv. Ass'n of New Orleans, Inc.*, 712 F.2d 978, 989 (5th Cir. 1983). Having considered the motion, the court is of the opinion that it should be granted.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Defendant the Texas Secretary of State's Unopposed Motion to Consolidate filed December 18, 2019 (Doc. #22) is **GRANTED**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Cause No. 1:19-CV-1154-LY be consolidated with and into Cause No. 1:19-CV-1063-LY.

IT IS FINALLY ORDERED that the consolidated cause shall hereafter be styled *Emily Gilby, Texas Democratic Party, DSCC, DCCC, Terrell Blodgett, Texas Young Democrats, and Texas College Democrats v. Ruth Hughes, In Her Official Capacity as the Texas Secretary of State*, Cause No. 1:19-CV-1063-LY.

SIGNED this 30th day of December, 2019.


LEE YEAKEL
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE